AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claim Form and Claim as follows. Insertions are shown underlined while deletions are ~~struck through~~.

1 (currently amended): A valve mechanism adapted for a fluid-discharging port of a tube-type fluid container, comprising:

a valve seat portion having an opening for passing ~~through which~~ a fluid ~~flows~~therethrough;

a valve portion comprising a valve body having an umbrella shape corresponding to said opening to close said opening with the valve body along a circumferential periphery of the valve body, and a shaft connected to said valve body and extending downward from said valve body; and

a valve support portion comprising: (i) a bottom plate to which a tip of the shaft is connected; (ii) an annular support fixedly connected to the valve seat portion; and (iii) multiple connectors each connecting the bottom plate and the annular support and having multiple points of flexion, said connectors elastically urging the bottom plate downward to close the opening with the valve body and being bendable at the multiple points of flexion as the bottom plate moves upward and pushes the valve portion to open the opening.

2 (original): The valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said multiple connectors are composed of three or more connectors.

3 (canceled)

4 (withdrawn): The valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a convex portion facing toward said valve body is formed in a portion in said opening, which convex portion contacts said valve body when said valve body closes said opening.

5 (withdrawn): The valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a convex portion facing toward said opening is formed in a portion in said valve body, which convex portion contacts said valve seat portion when said valve body closes said opening.

6 (original): The valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said valve portion comprises a guide portion disposed on the side opposite to said shaft, and said valve mechanism

comprises a supporting body comprising (a) an opening portion for discharging a fluid and (b) a guide material guiding said guide portion.

7 (original): The valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said guide material comprises multiple ribs contacting the outer circumferential surface of said guide portion.

8 (original): The valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said valve seat portion contacts both of the bottom surface and the end surface of said valve body in a position in which said valve body closes said opening.

9 (original): The valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said multiple connectors are composed of three or more connectors.

10 (original): The valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said multiple connectors have flexions.

11 (original): A tube-type fluid container comprising a tubular container main unit, at one end of which a fluid-discharging port is formed, and the valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 1.

12 (original): The tube-type fluid container as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said multiple connectors are composed of three or more connectors.

13 (original): The tube-type fluid container as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said multiple connectors have flexions.

14 (withdrawn): The tube-type fluid container as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said container main unit comprises (A) an internal container storing a fluid, and (B) an external container which is composed of a material having an elasticity recovering force and encompasses said internal container in such a way that an interior space shut off from the outside is formed between said external container and said internal container, and in which a hole communicating with said interior space and the outside is formed.

15 (withdrawn): The tube-type fluid container as claimed in Claim 14, wherein said hole formed in said external container has a size which can let a small amount of air through.

16 (withdrawn): The tube-type fluid container as claimed in Claim 14, wherein said hole formed in said external container is formed in a portion to which a pressure is applied when the fluid is discharged.

17 (withdrawn): The tube-type fluid container as claimed in Claim 14, wherein opening portions of said internal container and of said external container are connected to each other at said fluid-discharging port, and said internal container and said external container are welded at their bottoms.

18 (canceled)

19 (canceled)

20 (canceled)

21 (canceled)

22 (new): The valve mechanism as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the flexions are acutely angled at the multiple points.